THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Under the newsprint policy which came into effect from 1st May 1995, Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) is no longer allocating newsprint to newspapers. During the year 1999- 2000, RNI issued eligibility certificates for importing newsprint to 13 Urdu newspapers. The eligibility certificate does not specify the quantity of newsprint.

(b) Does not arise.

Publication and circulation of newspapers.

1495. SHRI MOHD. AZAM KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of newspapers/periodicals published in 1999 language-wise; and

(b) the circulation of each of the newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) A large number of newspapers/ periodicals do not file the Annual Statements with the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI). The RNI does not have complete records of the number of newspapers published in the year 1999 or their circulation figures.

CBI raids

1496. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CBI recently raided the offices and residences of officials of Prasar Bharati and private television firms in connection with the probe into the alleged bungling in allotment of television rights of cricket matches since 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the officials whose offices have been raided; and

(c) the details of incriminating documents seized as a result thereof?